

## Community resources

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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 04NEWDELHI6983, INDIA ENCOURAGES DEMOCRACY IN BURMA

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#04NEWDELHI6983**.

| Reference ID   | Created          | Released         | Classification | Origin            |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 04NEWDELHI6983 | 2004-11-02 08:39 | 2011-08-30 01:44 | CONFIDENTIAL   | Embassy New Delhi |

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article1541045.ece>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 006983

SIPDIS  
EO 12958 DECL: 11/01/2014

TAGS PREL, PGOV, PHUM, PTER, SNAR, IN, BM, CN, India-Burma  
SUBJECT: INDIA ENCOURAGES DEMOCRACY IN BURMA  
REF: A. 10/23 CAMP-PYATT E-MAIL  
B. NEW DELHI 6881

Classified By: PolCouns Geoffrey Pyatt, Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

1. (C) Summary: India underlined its concerns about the lack of democracy in Burma during the recent visit of Rangoon's military leader Than Shwe. Democracy

2. (C) Democracy topped India's agenda for the October 24-29 visit of Burma's military leader Than Shwe, MEA Joint Secretary (South East Asia)

3. (C) Asked about New Delhi's plan to further encourage democracy in Burma, Vashishta responded that Rangoon considers India a democratic role.

4. (C) According to Vashishta, democracy in Burma is too closely linked with the greatly respected Aung San Sui Kyi (ASSK), whose "day has come." Engaging Burma, Meeting India's Strategic Needs

5. (C) Describing the Than Shwe trip as "entirely devoted to India's interests," Vashishta stated that New Delhi decided to proceed with the visit.

6. (C) Vashishta reiterated India's belief that only constructive engagement of the military regime could bring about any meaningful change, especially in the area of human rights.

7. (C) Flagging that the timing of UN Special Envoy for Burma Razali Ismail's October 29-31 visit to New Delhi was not coincidental, Vashishta stated that the Counter-Terrorism Agreement

8. (C) Billing the Memorandum of Understanding on "Non-Traditional Security Issues" as an agreement on counter terrorism "whatever they call it," India said it has No To Military Exercises, Yes To Grants

9. (C) Although the India-Burma joint statement on Than Shwe's visit mentions the "possibilities of expanding cooperation" in defense, Vashishta said that

10. (C) Vashishta confirmed plans to provide Burma with a USD 20 million dollar grant to be used for energy, gas, and upgrading refining facilities in China

11. (C) Expressing concern about Chinese influence in Burma, Vashishta said that the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC) has been "learning from" Religion

12. (C) Commenting on the delegation's visit to several important Buddhist shrines in India, Vashishta noted that over the last three years, India has Comment

13. (C) Led by Foreign Secretary Saran, a former Ambassador to Rangoon, the GOI has embarked on a major diplomatic initiative with Burma. India has MULFORD